US Army Corps of Engineers®
New Orleans District

Hurricanes Katrina & Rita

FEMA Temporary Housing in Louisiana & the Corps

Scope of Problem

- ✓ 2,000,000 people evacuated in Louisiana during Katrina/Rita
- ✓ Over 260,000 individuals in New Orleans still displaced; additional 50,000 in other La. Parishes
- ✓ 191,000 houses/residences Flooded in Louisiana
- ✓ 323,000 houses with wind and storm (not Flood) damage in Louisiana

Holly Beach Before

By Arthur Belata / courtesy USACE

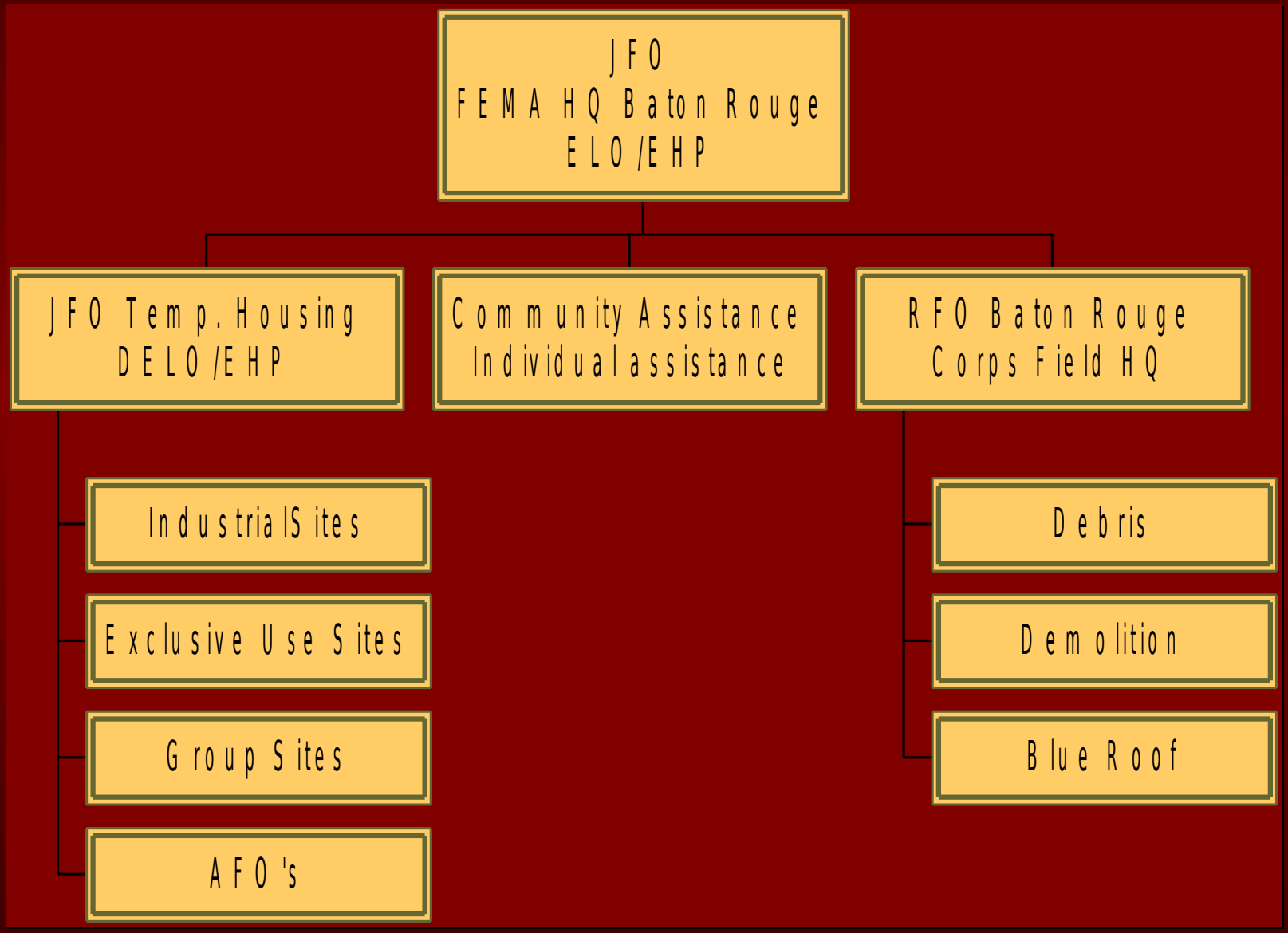
Holly Beach After

Downtown Holly Beach

Mission
Provide temporary housing for residents of the storms

- ✓ Trailers
- ✓ Tents
- ✓ Hotels
- ✓ Apartments
- ✓ Rent subsidies
- ✓ Ships

Program Organization



Temporary Housing Environmental Mission

- ✓ Provide all environmental/historic preservation compliance activities and approvals for Temporary Housing
- ✓ Assess suitability of structures for rehabilitation to support families (motels, hotels, etc.)
- ✓ Support other FEMA missions as needed (Debris removal and demolition)

Staff Composition

28-32 FTE's

- ✓ **7-8 Corps Biologists/Env. Spec.**
- ✓ ***3 -4 Corps Archeologists***
- ✓ ***2-4 Contractor Archeologists***
- ✓ **2-4 Contractor Biologists**
- ✓ **4-6 Contractor NEPA Specialists**
- ✓ **2-3 FEMA NEPA Specialists**
- ✓ **2-3 FEMA Architectural *Historians***

- ✓ **2/3 in JFO Baton Rouge**
- ✓ **1/3 AFO's in New Orleans and Lake Charles**

Supplemented by:

- ✓ ***Field contractor, mainly Archeologists and Architectural Historians***

Trailer Sites

- ✓ Emphasis was placed on group sites ranging from 5- 1000 trailers
- ✓ Sites include special groups for exclusive use sites; industrial sites; and sites for families
- ✓ Trailers placed at individual homes were not assessed
- ✓ Initial order was for 250,000 trailers in Louisiana
- ✓ Number of individual sites assessed- over 800

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Flagstaff
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Timeframes

- ✓ Signed CATEX – 3-4 Days
- ✓ EA's with Signed FONSI – 12-15 Days
- ✓ Turnaround on field investigations – 2 Days
- ✓ Average time to issue task orders and field an archeology crew – 12 hours
- ✓ SHPO review and comments – 1-2 Days

Key to Success- Pre-agreements

- ✓ MOA's with ACHP SHPO & THPO- Section 106, 110
- ✓ MOA's with USFWS-Threatened and Endangered Species, Coordination Act Reports
- ✓ EPA and LA DEQ- HTRW, Clean Water, Clean Air
- ✓ USDA- Prime & Unique Farmlands
- ✓ LA DNR- CZM

Conditions Which Allowed for Success

- ✓ Contracts for Special Services in place
- ✓ Logistical support to offices such as SHPO
- ✓ All site visits included one archeologist and one biologist
- ✓ NEPA documentation specialists compiled all reports
- ✓ Expedited Procedures were in place
- ✓ Local knowledge of the project areas by New Orleans District personnel

Special Problems and Constraints

- ✓ Turnover of key personnel
- ✓ Lack of understanding of FEMA regulations
- ✓ Shortage of volunteers for TDY
- ✓ Role of the Corps
- ✓ Relations with Housing Contractors
- ✓ Hostile and violent public
- ✓ Living conditions

Where Do We Go from Here?

- ✓ Develop MOA's for Corps Actions- at Division levels
- ✓ Develop Rosters of Suitable Volunteers
- ✓ Place Corps cultural resources personnel at JFO and RFO to provide program continuity- to FEMA and Corps EOC's
- ✓ Develop contract mechanisms to provide ready response field teams at the District level

Ineligible FEMA Assistance Applicants

SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC
Navigation
River Flood Control
Hurricane Flood Control
Environmental Enhancement
Wetlands Restoration
Support for Others